

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 COME-00 EB-08
LAB-04 SIL-01 /073 W
-----087226 300945Z /15

O 300915Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4803
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: ILO
SUBJECT: STRUCTURAL REFORM OF ILO GOVERNING BODY

REF: (A) STATE 23831 (B) GENEVA 1299

1. LABATT RAISED US CONCERNS OVER EC PROPOSAL TO MODIFY GOVERNING BODY (GB) STRUCTURE WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY'S INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BUREAU SPECIALIZED AGENCIES DIVISION CHIEF KIJIMA TODAY (JANUARY 30).

2. KIJIMA SAID THAT OF ALL IMEC MEMBERS, JAPAN HELD POSITION ON THIS ISSUE CLOSEST TO THAT OF US. GOJ BELIEVES THAT TITULAR MEMBERSHIP OF GB SHOULD REMAIN AS CLOSE TO 28 AS POSSIBLE, SEATS SHOULD BE APPORTIONED EQUALLY TO 4 REGIONAL GROUPS AND PRESENT NON-ELECTED MEMBERS SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO CONTINUE ON GB. MOREOVER, SINCE HARD BARGAINING WITH GROUP OF 77 LIES AHEAD, GOJ BELIEVES THAT IMEC GROUP SHOULD MAKE AS FEW CONCESSIONS ON STRUCTURE AS POSSIBLE IN INITIAL PRESENTATION TO 77. KIJIMA ADMITTED, HOWEVER, THAT JAPANESE MISSION IN GENEVA MORE INCLINED TO COMPROMISE BECAUSE OF INFLUENCE
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OF EC REPRESENTATIVES. THEREFORE, FOREIGN OFFICE EARLIER TODAY SENT INSTRUCTIONS TO GENEVA THAT PRESENT GB COMPOSITION SHOULD BE MAINTAINED TO EXTENT POSSIBLE.

3. KIJIMA SAID BASIC PROBLEM WITH EC PROPOSAL IS THAT IT STEMS FROM "EGOTISM" OF EC MEMBERS WHOSE MAIN GOAL IN STRUCTURAL REFORM IS TO INCREASE THEIR OWN REPRESENTATION

ON GB. AS KIJIMA UNDERSTANDS IT, IF GB IS ENLARGED TO 46 MEMBERS, IMEC REPRESENTATION WILL INCREASE FROM 9 TO 13 AND MOST, IF NOT ALL, OF THESE 4 ADDITIONAL SEATS WILL GO TO EC MEMBERS OR CANDANAVIANS. ACCORDING TO KIJIMA, GOJ NOT ANXIOUS TO HAVE EITHER NETHERLANDS OR SCANDINAVIAN COUNTRY ADDED TO GB BECAUSE OF TENDENCY OF THESE COUNTRIES TO SEEK ACCOMMODATION WITH 77 AT ALMOST ANY PRICE.

4. KIJIMA NOTED THAT GOJ VERY MUCH AWARE THAT US WILL RE-EVALUATE ITS DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ILO ON BASIS OF THE TOTAL PACKAGE OF ILO DECISIONS THIS YEAR ON STRUCTURE, DUE PROCESS AND APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS.

5. COMMENT: GIVEN FOREIGN OFFICE ASSURANCES THAT US AND JAPAN POSITIONS ON STRUCTURAL REFORM VIRTUALLY IDENTICAL, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING SOME FEEDBACK FROM GENEVA ON VIEWS EXPRESSED BY JAPANESE DELEGATION EITHER IN MEETINGS OR IN CORRIDOR CONVERSATIONS.
MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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